

10/528530

JC05 Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 MAR 2005

Amendment

(According to Article 11 of the Law)

To: Examiner, Japanese Patent Office

1. International Application No.: PCT/JP03/11873

2. Applicant

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4. Object of amendment: Specification and Claims

5. Contents of amendment

1) The words "preferably not less than 1 mol%, more preferably not less than 30 mol%, specifically not less than 50 mol%" in lines 6-8 on page 8 (lines 5-7 on page 11 in the English text) should be amended as "not less than 50 mol%".

2) Delete Claims 1 and 5-8.

6. List of documents attached

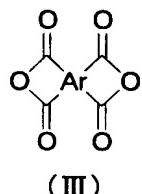
1) Specification (page 8)

2) Claims (pages 19 and 20)

Patent Publication JP-B-3204641.

As the acid component, the compound of formula (I) and its derivative may be used singly or used in combination with two or more kinds. Of the acid components, the total of the 5 compounds represented by formula (I) is not less than 50 mol%.

The other acid components are not particularly limited as long as it does not deviate from the content of the present invention, such as an aromatic tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride represented by formula (III);



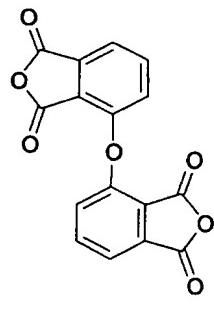
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in which Ar represents a quadrivalent organic group having an aromatic ring, or its derivative, different from the aromatic tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride represented by formula (I) and the derivative thereof.

15 As the quadrivalent organic group, aromatic groups represented by formula (V);

Claims

1. (deleted)
2. (deleted)
3. (deleted)
- 5 4. (deleted)
5. (deleted)
6. (deleted)
7. (deleted)
8. (deleted)
- 10 9. (amended) A thermoplastic imide oligomer obtainable by polymerizing an acid component and a diamine component characterized in that the acid component is an aromatic tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride represented by formula (I);



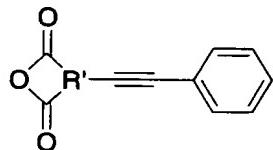
(I)

15 or its derivative, and that the terminal of imide origomer molecule is capped by two or more times of moles of the difference in mole number between the acid component used and diamine component used, of a dicarboxylic acid dianhydride having a triple bond in the molecule or a mono-amine.

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10. (amended) The thermoplastic imide oligomer according to claim 9 wherein the dicarboxylic acid dianhydride having a triple bond in the molecule is a compound represented by formula

(IV);



(IV)

in which R' is a trivalent organic group having 6 to 30 carbon atoms, which is a monocyclic aromatic group, a condensed 5 polycyclic aromatic group or a non-condensed polycyclic aromatic group where aromatic groups are linked each other directly or through a linking member, and any of aromatic ring in formula (IV) may be unsubstituted or substituted.

10 11. (amended) The thermoplastic imide oligomer according to claim 9 or 10 wherein at least a part of the diamine component is a diamine represented by formula (II);



(II)

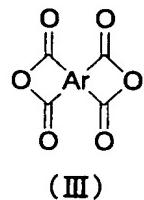
in which R is a substituted or unsubstituted bivalent organic 15 group having an aromatic and/or aliphatic ring(s).

12. (amended) The thermoplastic imide oligomer according to claim 11 wherein R is a bivalent organic group having an aromatic ring(s).

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13. (amended) The thermoplastic imide oligomer according to claim 12 wherein R has at least three aromatic rings.

14. (amended) The thermoplastic imide oligomer according to any one of claims 9 to 13 wherein the acid component further comprises an aromatic tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride represented by formula (III);



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in which Ar is a quadrivalent organic group having an aromatic ring, or its derivative, which is different from the aromatic tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride represented by formula (I) and the derivative thereof.

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15. (amended) A thermosetting imide oligomer obtainable by heat-treating the imide oligomer as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 14.

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16. (amended) A solution or suspension containing the imide oligomer as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 14.

17. (amended) A amic acid oligomer, which is a precursor of the imide oligomer as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 14.

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18. (amended) A solution or suspension containing the amic acid oligomer as claimed in claim 17.

25 19. A thermosetting imide oligomer obtainable by imidizing the amic acid as claimed in claim 17 or 18.

20. (added) A polyimide resin composition obtainable by  
heat-treating the imide origomer, the solution or suspension  
or the thermosetting imide oligomer according to any one of  
5 claims 9 to 19.